

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for the processing of workpieces using a processing method, in particular the electrochemical processing method, in which a voltage is applied between at least one electrode and at least one workpiece, so that, for the removal or deposit of material, a current is flowing between the at least one electrode and the at least one workpiece, through a working medium, especially an electrolyte solution, the voltage being increased for the processing of the at least one workpiece and the current being monitored, wherein the voltage is increased via a ramp to a predefined value (U1) for the processing of the workpiece.
2. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein, after attaining the first value (U1), the voltage is increased to a higher value (U2) via a ramp.
3. The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein, after attaining the first value (U1), the voltage is lowered to a lower value (U2) via a ramp.
4. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 3, wherein, after attaining the first value (U1), the voltage is increased to a higher value (U2) via a ramp, or is lowered to a lower value via a ramp in such a way that an essentially constant current characteristic is obtained.
5. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 4, wherein the voltage characteristic during processing is specified and the current is measured and compared to at least one predefined range, which is formed by a lower limit value ( $I_{\min}$ ) and an upper limit value ( $I_{\max}$ ).
6. The method as recited in Claim 5, wherein the processing is stopped if the measured current is outside the at least one predefined range.

7. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 6,  
wherein a current measured toward or at the end of processing is compared to a second predefined range, which is preferably smaller than a range specified during processing.
8. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 7,  
wherein the current is compared to a specified range at the end of the test procedure and the process is stopped when this range is exceeded or not attained.
9. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 8,  
wherein a plurality of workpieces is processed in parallel and the current through each workpiece is measured.
10. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 9,  
wherein the at least one electrode is not moved relative to the at least one workpiece during processing.
11. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 10,  
wherein the current is compared to a specified range during the test procedure.
12. The method as recited in Claim 11,  
wherein the process is abandoned when the range is exceeded or not attained.
13. The method as recited in one of Claims 1 through 12,  
wherein, prior to increasing the voltage ( $U_1$ ) for processing of the workpiece, a test procedure is implemented using a test voltage ( $U_{\text{test}}$ ).